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I hereby certify that this paper, together with all enclosures identified herein, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit

3636

Applicants

Larry (NMI) DeKraker et al.

Appln. No.

10/740,015

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December 18, 2003

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For

NONSLIP BEARING ARRANGEMENT

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

77 404 (1.11)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 3 of this paper.